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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

December 2, 2004

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RE: REPLY TO JUNE 3, 2004 OFFICE ACTION
FOR: SERIAL NUMBER 10/604,631; ART UNIT 3641; FILED 8/6/03;
EXAMINER: HARVEY E. BEHREND
TITLE: DEVICE, SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR ON-LINE EXPLOSIVE DESLAGGING

Dear Sir:

Attached please find a detailed sixty (60) page reply to the above-referenced office action.

Please also find enclosed a terminal disclaimer (1 sheet) to obviate the double patenting rejection over U.S. Patents 6,604,468; 6,431,073; 6,321,690; and 5,769,034.

Also, please find enclosed a copy of a (10 page) July 16, 2003 decision by a three-member Technical Board of Appeal 3.2.3 in related European case 00203711.7 (now patent EP 1 067 349), which is referred to in this reply.

The claim count is reduced by 23 claims total, and the number of independent claims is unchanged. Therefore, no claims fees are due.

Enclosed please find a credit card payment form for \$545, including the \$55 terminal disclaimer fee under 37 C.F.R. 1.20(d), and \$490 for an extension for response within the third month under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(a)(3).

By and with this reply, I hereby request further examination and consideration of this application, with the amendments submitted, described and supported herein.

Very Truly Yours,

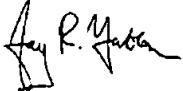


Jay R. Yablon
Registration # 30604

CERTIFICATION OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office Fax Number 703-872-9306 on the transmission date of December 2, 2004, pursuant to 37 CFR 1.8.

Name of Person signing this certificate: Jay R. Yablon



(signature)

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Serial Number: 10/604,631

Art Unit: 3641

Filing Date: 8/6/03

Examiner: Harvey E. Behrens

Title of Invention: Device, System and Method for On-Line Explosive Deslagging

Inventor: Zilka et al.

DETAILED REPLY TO JUNE 3, 2004 OFFICE ACTION

Following is a detailed reply to the above-referenced office action.

Amendments to the claims begin on page 2 of this reply.

5 Remarks begin on page 25 of this reply.

REQUEST FOR TELEPHONE INTERVIEW BEFORE SUBSEQUENT OFFICE ACTION

If this reply does not result in allowance of all claims, applicants' counsel hereby respectfully requests a telephone 10 interview with examiner Harvey E. Behrens, following receipt of this reply, and prior to issuance of any further office action.